



Everglades Coalition

1000 Friends of Florida
 Arthur R. Marshall Foundation
 Audubon of Florida
 Audubon Society of the Everglades
 Audubon of Southwest Florida
 Caloosahatchee River Citizens
 Association/ Riverwatch
 Clean Water Action
 Clean Water Network
 Collier County Audubon Society
 Conservancy of Southwest Florida
 Defenders of Wildlife
 Ding Darling Wildlife Society
 Earthjustice
 Environment Florida
 The Environmental Coalition
 Everglades Coordinating Council
 Everglades Foundation
 Everglades Law Center
 Florida Defenders of the Environment
 Florida Keys Environmental Fund
 Florida Native Plant Society
 Florida Oceanographic Society
 Florida Wildlife Federation
 Friends of the Arthur R. Marshall
 Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
 Friends of the Everglades
 Hendry Glades Audubon Society
 Izaak Walton League Florida Division
 Izaak Walton League Florida Keys
 Chapter
 Izaak Walton League Mangrove
 Chapter
 Izaak Walton League of America
 Last Stand
 League of Women Voters of Florida
 Loxahatchee River Coalition
 Martin County Conservation Alliance
 National Audubon Society
 National Parks Conservation
 Association
 National Wildlife Federation
 National Wildlife Refuge Association
 Natural Resources Defense Council
 The Ocean Conservancy
 The Pegasus Foundation
 Sanibel-Captiva
 Conservation Foundation
 Save It Now, Glades!
 Sierra Club
 Sierra Club Broward Group
 Sierra Club Calusa Group
 Sierra Club Central Florida Group
 Sierra Club Florida Chapter
 Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group
 Sierra Club Miami Group
 South Florida Audubon Society
 Tropical Audubon Society
 The Urban Environment League
 World Wildlife Fund

Resolution Opposing Legislative Attempts to Weaken the Clean Water Act

WHEREAS the Greater Everglades Ecosystem, spanning from the Kissimmee River Valley to Florida Bay, is a significant national resource and international treasure;

WHEREAS, Florida waters support a substantial and economically significant fishing industry, which depend on clean water resources;

WHEREAS, Florida's economy depends on its multi-billion dollar tourism industry which resulted in more than 82 million visitors coming to Florida in 2008, during which tourism generated over \$4.0 billion in taxable sales, including eco-tourism and recreation in the Everglades;

WHEREAS, algal blooms in Florida, caused by polluted water, have become persistent and reoccurring, and thus pose a threat to seagrass, fish, and invertebrate communities;

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has failed to improve water quality to adequately protect plants and wildlife from negative impacts;

WHEREAS, the federal Clean Water Act was established with the goals of eliminating releases of high amounts of toxic substances into water, eliminating additional water pollution and ensuring that surface waters would meet standards necessary for human sports and recreation;

WHEREAS, federal legislation has been proposed that would vastly weaken the ability of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to meet the goals of the Clean Water Act by removing its ability to act when a state has failed to meet its goals;

WHEREAS, protecting and improving the quality of Florida's waters is necessary for the wellbeing of Florida's environment, the health of Florida's families and Florida's economy.

Therefore be it resolved,

The Everglades Coalition, with 53 organizations dedicated to protecting and restoring the Everglades ecosystem, hereby opposes attempts to weaken the Federal Clean Water Act through H.R. 2018 the "Clean Water Cooperative Federalism Act of 2011" and any other companion or substantially similar legislation or Amendments.

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